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Governor
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DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Media Contact

Juan Martinez
Kim Haberlin
Heather Johnson
617-725-4025
Cyndi Roy (ANF)
617-727-2040

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GOVERNOR PATRICK CELEBRATES OPENING OF FALL RIVER COURTHOUSE

State-of-the-art facility exemplifies energy efficient design; set to revitalize downtown area

FALL RIVER - Thursday, September 30, 2010 - Governor Deval Patrick today joined with top judicial officials, local lawmakers and the mayor of Fall River to celebrate the opening of a new \$85 million downtown courthouse.

"This project demonstrates our commitment to modernizing our court facilities and helping communities revitalize their downtown areas," said Governor Patrick. "Because we have responsibly managed these economic challenges and maintained an excellent bond rating, we are able to invest in projects like this for our future."

The new Superior and District Court is a 154,000-square-foot facility that exemplifies energy efficiency and sustainable design principles, designed for LEED Silver certification. The building will achieve at least 28 percent energy cost savings over standard building design, emphasizing access to natural light throughout the building. Additionally, the building achieves 20 percent water savings over standard building design.

The new courthouse, which began construction in 2007, includes nine courtrooms, the Superior Court, the District Court, a Jury Pool, Detention Area, District Attorney's Office and Law Library.

At its peak, construction of this project supported more than 150 construction jobs, keeping with the Administration's commitment to create new jobs and spur economic growth through investing in the Commonwealth's infrastructure.

"I am proud to stand with Governor Patrick and my colleagues in the Legislature as this new courthouse opens. It represents one of many important, targeted investments supported by the Patrick-Murray Administration throughout Fall River," said Representative Michael J. Rodrigues.

"This larger, consolidated facility brings new infrastructure and technology that will better serve the people of the district. I am happy to formally celebrate its opening with the employees of the court, officials and members of the community," said Representative David Sullivan.

Since January 2007, the Patrick-Murray Administration has invested over \$340 million in capital investment into new construction, renovation and repair of the Commonwealth's court facilities.

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